

BILL ANALYSIS

Senate Research Center

H.B. 2997
By: Culberson (Lindsay)
State Affairs
8/23/1999
Enrolled

DIGEST

H.B. 2997 ensures that the state flag is of the same colors as those used in the United State flag. This bill lays out specifications for the governor's flag. This bill establishes a state motto, state bird, and a state flower. It also sets forth State of Texas Anniversary Remembrance Day as a day to be regularly observed.

PURPOSE

As enrolled, H.B. 2997 amends regulations regarding the recognition of certain symbols of the State of Texas and designation of State of Texas Anniversary Remembrance Day.

RULEMAKING AUTHORITY

This bill does not grant any additional rulemaking authority to a state officer, institution, or agency.

SECTION BY SECTION ANALYSIS

SECTION 1. Amends Subsection (d), Article 6139a, V.T.C.S., to set forth that the red and blue colors of the state flag are the same colors used in the United States flag and are defined as numbers 193, rather than 80108 (red), and 281, rather than 80075 (dark blue), of the Pantone Matching System, rather than the Standard Color Reference of America, 10th edition.

SECTION 2. Amends Sections (3)(d) and (s), Article 6139c, V.T.C.S., to include national holidays as times when the state flag should be displayed. Provides that the state flag should be displayed at half-staff on Peace Officers Memorial Day (May 15), unless that day is also Armed Forces Day.

SECTION 3. Amends Title 106, V.T.C.S., by adding Article 6139g, as follows:

Art. 6139g. STATE MOTTO. Provides that "friendship" is the state motto.

SECTION 4. Amends Title 106, V.T.C.S., by adding Article 6139h, as follows:

Art. 6139h. STATE BIRD. Provides that the mockingbird is the state bird.

SECTION 5. Amends Title 106, V.T.C.S., by adding Article 6139i, as follows:

Art. 6139i. STATE FLOWER. Provides that the bluebonnet is the state flower.

SECTION 6. Amends Article 6143, V.T.C.S., as follows:

Art. 6139j. New heading: STATE TREE. Provides that the pecan tree is the state tree. Deletes text requiring the State Board of Control and the State Parks Board to give due consideration to the Pecan Tree when planning beautification of State Parks or other public property belonging to the State. Redesignated from Article 6143, V.T.C.S. Makes conforming changes.

SECTION 7. Amends Chapter 662C, Government Code, by adding Section 662.050, as follows:

Sec. 662.050. STATE OF TEXAS ANNIVERSARY REMEMBRANCE DAY (STAR DAY). Provides that February 19 is State of Texas Anniversary Remembrance Day (STAR Day) in honor of Texas joining the union and the day that James Pinckney Henderson became the first governor of the State of Texas in 1846. Requires STAR Day to be regularly observed by appropriate and patriotic programs in the public schools and other places to properly commemorate the annexation of this state and to inspire a greater appreciation for the history of this state.

SECTION 8. Provides that it is the intent of the legislature that the General Services Commission, the Parks and Wildlife Department, and other state agencies continue to give due consideration to the state tree and the state flower when planning beautification of state parks or other public property.

SECTION 9. Emergency clause.
Effective date: 90 days after adjournment.